

REMARKS

In the outstanding Final Office Action, claims 38-42 and 44-46 were objected-to for informalities. Claims 24-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over FARRIS et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,404,859).

Upon entry of the present Response, claims will have been amended to eliminate the informalities noted in the Final Office Action, as well as to eliminate additional noted informalities by ensuring that a space is provided between separate words in several claims. In view of the herein-contained amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection is respectfully requested.

Applicants traverse the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over FARRIS. In this regard, the Final Office Action asserts that the features recited in independent claims 24 and 35 are disclosed in FARRIS at Figure 2 and column 1, lines 17-23; column 14, lines 3-19, column 15, line 57 to column 16, line 49; and column 47, lines 21-28. As explained below, the features of FARRIS cited in the Final Office Action are substantially directed to a personalized call waiting service and a personalized dial tone service, and do not disclose the combinations of features recited in independent claims 24 and 35.

That is, FARRIS discloses, at column 1, lines 3-17, that personalized telecommunications services, including personalized call waiting and personalized dial tone, are provided using an intelligent telephone network. FARRIS discloses, at column 14, lines 3-19, that a subscriber may be uniquely identified using a line information database (LIDB), so that personalized services can be provided even when multiple subscribers share a single telephone line and telephone number. At column 14, line 3-19,

the subscriber is uniquely identified by, for example, associating the telephone number with a code assigned to the subscriber, or by a unique virtual office equipment (OE) number associated with the telephone line and the subscriber. Personalized services including personalized call waiting and personalized dial tone, can be provided for a subscriber so long as the subscriber can be uniquely identified as described in FARRIS.

FARRIS discloses, at column 15, line 57 to column 16, line 3, that an end office switch serving the telephone line normally operates by detecting an off-hook condition on a line and providing dial tone, retrieving profile information associated with the office equipment (OE) number associated with the telephone line, and routing a call upon receipt of dialed digits. However, this disclosure is not unique to the advanced intelligent telecommunications network features of FARRIS, or to the personalized services including personalized call waiting and personalized dial tone.

At column 16, lines 4-29, FARRIS discloses interoperation between an intelligent network service switching point 11 and service control point 19 or line information database 21. That is, e.g., an off-hook condition or dialed number is detected and the service switching point 11 routes a query to the service control point 19. The service control point 19 ultimately returns an instruction to the service switching point 11 to continue call processing. In relation to the other cited teachings of FARRIS, a service such as personalized dial tone would be implemented based on an off-hook condition (i.e., before the dial tone is provided).

At column 16, lines 30-49, FARRIS discloses an embodiment where an outgoing call is extended to an intelligent peripheral 23 for caller identification/verification before dial-tone service is provided. If successful, the intelligent peripheral 23 instructs the

service switching point to load profile data and process the call so that the service switching point may now provide dial tone. In relation to the other cited teachings of FARRIS, the call to the intelligent peripheral 23 before dial tone is provided would be implemented based on an off-hook condition.

Finally, at column 47, lines 21-28, FARRIS discloses that a subscriber can interact with an intelligent peripheral 23 to update, cancel or reestablish service.

The above-noted teachings of FARRIS do not disclose the combinations recited in independent claim 24. Rather, a personalized call waiting service or personalized dial tone service as in FARRIS does not disclose features resulting in sending a call processor message to a switch for controlling the outbound call received at the switch, as recited in claim 24. Rather, the cited personalized dial tone service teachings merely relate to a personalized dial tone provided to a uniquely-identified calling party, and has nothing to do with controlling an outbound call. Further, the cited teachings of FARRIS relating to sending queries to an SCP relate only to a switch message, and not to sending a call processor message to a switch for controlling the outbound call received at the switch.

Finally, in the embodiment described at column 16, lines 30-49 in FARRIS, the intelligent peripheral 23 is contacted before dial-tone service is provided. Accordingly, the embodiment described at column 16, lines 30-49 in FARRIS is entirely unrelated to functionality that follows a precursor condition of an outbound call being placed to a dialed number and received at the switch.

That is, as described above, the personalized services described in the cited portions of FARRIS with respect to claim 24 do not disclose or suggest a combination that includes at least a “call processor message being sent to the switch for controlling the

outbound call received at the switch” where the call processor message is sent “based on action information in response to a switch message when condition information is satisfied, the switch message being received in response to the outbound call being placed to a dialed number and received at the switch” as recited in claim 24.

As described above, FARRIS also does not disclose the features recited in claim 35. That is, as described above, the personalized services described in the cited portions of FARRIS with respect to claim 35 do not disclose or suggest a combination that includes at least a “call processor message being sent for controlling the outbound call received at the switch” where the call processor message is sent “based on action information in response to a switch message when condition information is satisfied, the switch message being received in response to the outbound call being placed to a dialed number and received at the switch” as recited in claim 35.

Accordingly, independent claims 24 and 35 are allowable at least for each and all of the reasons set forth above. Claims 25-34 and 36-46 are allowable at least because they depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claims 24 and 35, as well as for additional reasons related to their own recitations.

Any amendments to the claims in this Response, which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, would be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions regarding this Response, any representative of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas McBLAIN et al.


Joshua M. Povsner
Reg. #42,086
Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

June 21, 2007
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191